

C. Remarks

The claims are 1-6, with claim 1 being the sole independent claim. Claim 20 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. No new matter has been added.

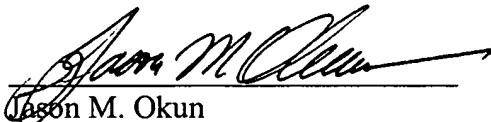
The Office Action entered the rejection of claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,592,709 B1 (Lubomirsky). Since claim 20 has now been cancelled, this rejection is moot and should be withdrawn.

The foregoing actions have been taken without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and without conceding correctness of the rejection, but rather strictly to obtain an earlier allowance and to expedite issuance.

The only claims remaining in this application are claim 1-6, which have been allowed. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the present case be passed to issue.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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